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Applicant : Fang. et al.

Art Unit : 1648

Serial No. : 09/910,483

Examiner : NYA

Filed : July 19, 2001

Title : HUMANIZED ANTIBODIES

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SEP 27 2001

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the specification as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

At page 1, line 6, please delete May 31, 2001 and insert therefore —August 16, 2000—.

**REMARKS**

The amendment to the specification was made to provide the correct priority application filing date, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.78. The amendment therefore was made to address an informality and, as such does not add new matter. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested. A clean copy of page 1 is furnished herewith. The clean copy includes the correct priority application filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9-17-01

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## Humanized Antibodies

### RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 This application is a continuation-in-part and claims the benefit of priority of application serial no. 09/555,446, filed August 16, 2000, which is a 35 U.S.C. 371 of PCT application serial no. PCT/US98/25422, filed November 30, 1998.

### FIELD OF THE INVENTION

10 The invention relates to humanized antibody compositions and methods of making and using humanized antibodies.

### BACKGROUND

Monoclonal antibodies have become an important class of therapeutic proteins.  
15 However, foreign immunoglobulins used in humans can elicit an anti-globulin response which may interfere with therapy or cause allergic or immune complex hypersensitivity. To avoid this problem, a monoclonal antibody may be "humanized," and this is typically carried out by CDR grafting.

CDR's, also called hypervariable regions, are present in immunoglobulin light  
20 and heavy chains and are flanked by "framework" regions. CDR grafting was first described in Jones *et al.* ((1986) *Nature* 321:522-525). In this and later publications, the CDRs of three mouse antibodies were grafted onto the variable domain frameworks of the human immunoglobulin NEW (V<sub>H</sub>) and REI (V<sub>L</sub>). The resulting humanized antibodies had the same antigen specificity and a similar affinity as the parental murine  
25 monoclonal antibody (mAb) (Jones *et al. supra*; Verhoeven *et al.* (1988) *Science* 239:1534-1536; Riechmann *et al.* (1988) *Nature* 332:323-327; U.S. Patent No. 5,225,539).

CDR grafting has been described by Queen and coworkers who reported the humanization of four murine monoclonal antibodies (Queen *et al.* (1989) *Proc. Natl.*  
30 *Acad. Sci. USA* 86:10029-10033; Co *et al.* (1991) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 88:2869-2873; Co *et al.* (1992) *J. Immunol.* 148:1149-1154; and U.S. Patent Nos. 5,585,089; 5,693,761; and 5,693,762). Murine residues were inserted in the human framework in order to maintain affinity and, in each case the original antigen specificity was